

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

National Organic Standards Board

**Tuesday, May 13, 2003
Austin, Texas**

**Submitted By
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First, I want to say we are off and running with the National Organic Program (NOP) and want to give a special “thank you” to each of you, those who served before you and the AMS, NOP Staff who administer the program.

I was a little surprised to find in the recent *Proposed Rule, Federal Register, Volume 68, #73, Wednesday, April 16, 2003* for the *National Organic Program; Proposed Amendment to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Materials* it covered only ten (10) new materials – for section 205.601-603.

Further it stated the NOSB has recommended that other substances be added to Sections 205.603-605, which are under review and as appropriate, will be included in future rulemaking.

First question. What does that do to these materials in the interim, and secondly, assuming they do pass the review of the Secretary, when would the next proposed rule be forthcoming?

Obviously the limited number of materials appearing in this amendment has caused some concern, especially with those NOSB recommended materials not covered by this amendment.

Do we know where these other materials and amendment stand?

Thank you.